

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIM

Claims 1 through 13 (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) An intracranial aspiration catheter, comprising:
an elongate, flexible tubular body, having a proximal end, a distal end, and an aspiration lumen extending therethrough;
a distally facing opening on the distal end of the aspiration lumen;
a proximal section on the body, having a fixed diameter;
a distal section on the body in which the aspiration lumen including the distally facing opening is movable between a first, reduced inside diameter for transluminal navigation and a second, enlarged inside diameter for aspirating material;
[a]an axially movable support for controllably supporting the aspiration lumen against collapse when in the second diameter; and
a control on the proximal end of the catheter for controlling the support;
wherein the distal section is advanced from the first diameter to the second diameter in response to distal movement of the support.

15. (Original) An intracranial aspiration catheter as in Claim 14, wherein the support comprises a spiral element.

16. (Original) An intracranial aspiration catheter as in Claim 15, wherein the support comprises a spring coil.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Original) An intracranial aspiration catheter as in Claim 14, wherein the support is activated by rotating a first end of the support relative to a second end of the support.

19. (Original) An intracranial aspiration catheter as in Claim 14, wherein the aspiration lumen is defined within a tubular wall having a plurality of folds therein when the aspiration lumen is in the first inside diameter configuration.

20. (Original) An intracranial aspiration catheter as in Claim 14, wherein the aspiration lumen is defined within a stretchable tubular wall.

Claims 21 through 36 (Cancelled)

37. (New) An intracranial aspiration catheter as in Claim 14, wherein the elongate flexible tubular body has a length within the range of from 60 cm to 250 cm.

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38. (New) An intracranial aspiration catheter as in Claim 14, wherein the elongate flexible tubular body has a length of from about 135 cm to about 175 cm.

39. (New) An intracranial aspiration catheter as in Claim 14, wherein the proximal section has a length within the range of 20 cm to 220 cm.

40. (New) An intracranial aspiration catheter as in Claim 14, wherein the proximal section has a length from 100 cm to about 120 cm.

41. (New) An intracranial aspiration catheter as in Claim 14, wherein the distal section has a length in the range of from 2 cm to about 50 cm.

42. (New) An intracranial aspiration catheter as in Claim 14, wherein the distal section has a length in the range of from about 5 cm to about 20 cm.

43. (New) An intracranial aspiration catheter as in Claim 15, comprising a control wire extending from the spiral element to the proximal end of the catheter.